PORTFOLIO REFLECTION 1

1. One thing I notice that I have improved on from my summer essay to my *To Kill A Mockingbird* essay is structure. During my summer essay my structure was ‘put in as much information as you can and hope it makes sense’. I did not have quotes or and reliable resources, I used I a lot, and did not use the sentence structure you are suppose too. When I reviewed my To Kill a Mockingbird essay I found that I now had MLA format and proper sentence structure. In this essay I learned how to build a proper paragraph and my essay was not jumbled, but actually contained a theme.

2. One improvement that I have noticed about my writing style is using the ‘no-no’ words such as you. “In conclusion, I think that Mitch Album is trying to say that you should not let life pass you by.” This is a direct quote in my summer essay where I used the word you atleast 9 times. Another improvement I have noticed is structure. In my summer essay I did not know how to properly assemble an essay, but compared to my most recent essay there has been much improvement. For example in my summer essay I did not know that in your intro paragraph you had to state the Title, Author, and genre, but in my To Kill A Mockingbird essay I did put in ATG. “ Harper Lee’s historical fiction novel, *To Kill A Mockingbird “* This direct quote from my TKAM essay shows that I have accomplished the fact that you need to add author, title, and genre.

3. Some elements that I think made writing easier are transitions, structure, and quotes. The area I need the most practice on is the thesis and theme sentences. I have trouble linking the sentence to my thesis, without repeating myself. I have trouble making a theme within a few minutes, it takes me awhile to process the theme and put it into a sentence that makes sense.

4. Some overall goals I have for my writing is to piece together a paragraph within 10 minutes, to come up with a theme after I read a story, and have proper MLA format. It usually takes me awhile to come up with a well thought out paragraph and I would like to be able to perform this task faster for future writing projects. There are a lot of steps to remember for MLA so I would like to be able to get a majority of them down and be able to free-write while using MLA. One target area that I would like to improve on is fluent paragraph structure. Sometimes I throw in random sentences so I would like to be able to make them connect and make sense.